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PROJECT UPDATE



Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives
Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office
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Blue Grass Chemical Agent-
Destruction Pilot Plant

JULY 2005

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Program Manager
Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives
Public Affairs
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BGCAPP

**BLUE GRASS CHEMICAL AGENT-
DESTRUCTION PILOT PLANT**

A Partnership for Safe Chemical Weapons Destruction

JULY 2005

Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) PROJECT UPDATE

Your involvement in the chemical weapons destruction program is important to us, and we're committed to keeping you informed every step of the way. We are pleased to share this brief update on the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP):

- The BGCAPP team is reassessing M55 rocket destruction plans in light of recent rocket motor propellant fires at chemical weapons destruction facilities in Oregon and Arkansas. While the current design for our plant calls for the same type of rocket shear equipment in use at the incineration facilities, we are looking at ways to reduce the possibility of similar incidents here once the plant becomes operational. As a risk reduction effort, the project team is considering removing the rocket motors from the warheads and processing the rocket motors in another facility either on or off the depot. The team will identify and recommend the best technology and approach to remove rocket motors (which contain propellant) from the warheads (which contain nerve agent and explosive bursters). They will also recommend a method for destroying and disposing of the rocket motors and propellant. This effort will be carried out as a "project within a project" by a special team drawn from Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG) supplemented by Blue Grass Army Depot personnel and others as needed. If approved, the current plan is to finalize the design in 2005 and begin operations in late 2006.

- With the safety of the community and the workforce as the top priority, the Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (PMACWA) and the BPBG team are continuing to explore options in the plant's design to reduce costs.
- The Design Considerations Working Group – a subcommittee of the Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board – is studying the design consideration options and will make recommendations to PMACWA. The program manager will then include the community's recommendations in its discussions with Department of Defense officials. These officials will make the final decision on the pilot plant's design.

We invite you to learn more about the pilot plant project. Please plan on attending an information session scheduled for Tuesday, July 26, at the Madison County Extension Center located on Duncannon Lane in Richmond.

Information Session Agenda

6:30 – 7:00 p.m. Poster Session
7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Presentations/Project Update
8:00 – 8:30 p.m. Public Comments and Questions
8:30 – 9:00 p.m. Poster Session

www.pmacwa.army.mil

To keep you better informed and seek your opinion, the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office will be sending you project updates every so often. If you have questions or comments, jot them down and send the reply card back, or call the outreach office at (859) 626-8944.

UPCOMING EVENT

Kentucky Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB) Meeting
September 13, 2005
Eastern Kentucky University's Carl D. Perkins Building
1 - 5 p.m.

We Look Forward to Your Feedback.

Your comments: _____

- ☐ I am comfortable with the information you are providing. Please keep it coming.
- ☐ I have additional questions or would like to talk about scheduling a presentation. Please contact me.
- ☐ I am content that I have the information I need on the chemical weapons destruction project. Please remove my name from your mailing list.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

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